

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An apparatus for supporting one or more articles of various sizes and shapes on a vehicle surface during transport with a mechanized vehicle, the apparatus comprising:

one or more straps;

a substantially planar platform having a body and cooperating with said one or more straps for supporting holding the one or more articles against the platform, the platform further comprising:

a top slip-resistant surface;

a bottom slip-resistant surface;

a planar top surface for engaging the one or more articles being held by the one or more straps;

a planar bottom surface parallel to the top surface for engaging the vehicle surface;

a plurality of bearing members arranged in succession to enable adjustment of the one or more straps;

a plurality of slots separating said bearing members;

one or more handles; and

a at least one recess, aligned with said plurality of slots and said bearing members, recessing from the defined within a bottom area surface into the body of the platform, for accepting said one or more straps through at least two of containing said plurality of slots; for engaging the straps against the bearing members and for preventing the straps from engaging the vehicle surface.

one or more straps engaged with said platform through two or more of said slots, bearing against two or more of said bearing members and passing through said recess, said straps securing the articles to said platform.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the top and bottom slip-resistant surfaces are composed of material selected from the group consisting rubber, elastomer, plastic, wool and metal; one or more straps are permanently fastened to the platform.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the one or more straps are permanently fastened to removable from the platform within the recess.
4. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the one or more straps are removable from the platform vary in width and length.
5. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein one or more handles are formed into said body of the platform is positioned on the vehicle surface for supporting the articles during transport on the vehicle.
6. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the vehicle surface is substantially horizontal one or more handles are attached to said body of the platform.
7. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim ~~1~~ 6 wherein the ~~vehicle surface is angled~~ one or more handles are collapsible.
8. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein ~~said straps pass through said recess without contacting the vehicle~~ the platform top surface is further comprised of a slip resistant material.
9. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein ~~said straps vary in width and length according to a size of the one or more articles to be supported~~ the platform bottom surface is further comprised of a slip resistant material.
10. (canceled)